

Voting will normally be by show of hands on all matters coming before the Watauga County Board of Education (the “board”) for action. The minutes will reflect the vote of each member voting and the abstention of any member present but not voting, unless the vote is unanimous.

A board member must vote on all issues unless the member has a conflict of interest or is unable to remain impartial in a judicial matter before the board. If a board member recuses himself or herself from a vote, the member will state the reason before the vote is taken and the reason will be recorded in the minutes. A failure to vote by a member who is present and has not been excused as set forth herein shall be recorded as an affirmative vote. A vote to abstain is also an affirmative vote.

No secret ballots are permitted. If the board decides, by majority vote, to vote by written ballot, each member must sign his or her ballot, and the ballots must be available for public inspection in the superintendent’s office immediately following the meeting and until the minutes are approved. The minutes of the meeting must specify the vote of each member’s written ballot. The ballots may be destroyed after the minutes of the meeting have been approved.

Legal References: G.S. 143-318.13; *Crump v. Board of Education*, 93 N.C. App. 168, *aff’d*, 326 N.C. 603 (1990); N.C. Attorney General Advisory Opinion, 54 Op. Att’y. Gen. 86 (1985)

Cross References: Board Member Conflict of Interest (policy 1321)

Adopted: November 9, 2015

Replaces: Board policy 1.04, Procedures for Board Meetings (in part)